

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN JOHN WITT**, on January 18, 2001 at 8.20 A.M., in Room 102 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. John Witt, Chairman (R)
Sen. Ken Miller, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Rosalie (Rosie) Buzzas (D)
Sen. Greg Jergeson (D)
Sen. Royal Johnson (R)
Rep. Art Peterson (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: David Brown, Legislative Branch
Mark Bruno, OBPP
Amy Carlson, OBPP
Pam Joehler, Legislative Branch
Cayenna Johnson, Committee Secretary
Taryn Purdy, Legislative Branch
Jim Standaert, Legislative Branch

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: Office of Public Instruction
Executive Action: None.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0}

Ms. Amy Carlson, Office of Budget and Program Planning, distributed the following information the regarding Montana Historical Society entitled, "The executive is requesting language in HB 2 for the 2003 Biennium":

EXHIBIT(jeh14a01)

**INFORMAL MEETING WITH THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND THE
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0.1; 8:20 a.m.}

Richard S. Crofts, Commissioner of Higher Education; Margie Thompson, Chairwoman of the Board of Regents; Mark J. Semmens, Board of Regents; Richard Roehm, Board of Regents; Jessica Kobos, Student Regent; Lynn Morrison-Hamilton, Board of Regents; Ed Jasmin, Vice-Chairman Board of Regents; George Dennison, President of University of Montana; and Geoff Gamble, President of Montana State University were in attendance.

Jessica Kobos gave the committee the following information:

EXHIBIT(jeh14a02)

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 22.8; 10:06 a.m.}

Linda McCulloch, Superintendent, Office of Public Instruction, gave an overview of the Office of Public Instruction(OPI) in the following testimony:

EXHIBIT(jeh14a03)

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 30.1}

She also gave the committee the following information:

EXHIBIT(jeh14a04)

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 5.1 - 13.6; 10:20 a.m.}

Madalyn Quinlan, Chief of Staff, OPI, gave an overview of the Office of the State Superintendent in the following testimony:

EXHIBIT(jeh14a05)

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 13.8 - 26.3; 10:43 a.m.}

Nancy Coppersmith, Assistant Superintendent, OPI, gave an overview of the Department of Educational Services in the following testimony:

EXHIBIT(jeh14a06)

She also gave the committee information entitled, "Facts about Montana Schools":

EXHIBIT(jeh14a07)

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 26.3 through Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 4.1}

Kathy Fabiano, Assistant Superintendent, OPI, gave an overview of the Department of Operations in the following testimony:

EXHIBIT(jeh14a08)

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 5.4 - 15.6}

Kirk J. Miller EdD., Chairman, Montana Board of Public Education and Superintendent, Havre Public Schools, presented his testimony entitled, "Education Appropriations Testimony for OPI School Improvement 1/18/01." His written testimony is part of these minutes.

EXHIBIT(jeh14a09)

He also gave the committee the following entitled, "Maintaining Quality - Focus on Student Achievement":

EXHIBIT(jeh14a10)

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 17.2 through Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 12.1; 11:10 a.m.}

Kathy Vrooman Peterson, School Improvement Division Administrator, OPI, presented an overview of Improving Montana Schools in the following testimony:

EXHIBIT(jeh14a11)

She also provided the committee with the following:

EXHIBIT(jeh14a12)

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 12.2 - 14.3}

Ms. Coopersmith, explained assessment is an important tool in order to know the issues, the strengths of the program and what improvements are needed for "Improving Montana Schools." She spoke in support of a single, standardized test that would be more reliable and more meaningful to provide better information.

Assessment means different things on different levels and will show in-district circular trends. She urges the funding of Improving Montana Schools to measure how the state is performing.

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 14.3 - 17.6}

Ms. Quinlan gave the committee the following entitled: "Montana Statewide Education Profile: Indicators of Quality in Education":

EXHIBIT (jeh14a13)

Ms. Quinlan explained the goal of the Improving Montana School Initiative is to collect data and provide accessible information in the Statewide Education Profile. The book tries to look at indicators of quality and is used by a variety of people in education to answer several questions. The next publication is scheduled for April of 2001 and then in 2003. The 1999 publication will be used as a "baseline" of data and additional data will help OPI provide information on "trends" in Montana Schools.

{Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 18.8 - 21.8; 11:40 a.m.}

Before the adjournment of the hearing **Ms. Fabiano** introduced **Bill Parker, Superintendent of Malta Schools**. She explained that in 1992 there was a dispute over local oil and gas severance tax. In May of 1993 the dispute was settled out-of-court for a balance of \$5.8 million. The Malta School District was the only district who complied with the severance tax and is asking that the \$21,009 they paid be returned. **Dr. Parker** explained that due to the dispute, other counties did not pay the severance tax, but Philips County did and would just like to be reimbursed for a cost that no other county had to pay. He also spoke in favor of OPI's budget requests and stated that they provided outreach to all administration in Montana and provided great representation.

SEN. JERGESON asked **Ms. Fabiano** if funds could be obtained in Supplemental Appropriations to reimburse Malta School District. **Ms. Fabiano** replied that it could be amended into the supplemental appropriation.

CHAIRMAN WITT then adjourned the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11.10 A.M.

REP. JOHN WITT, Chairman

CAYENNA JOHNSON, Secretary

JW/CJ

EXHIBIT (jeh14aad)